

COON RAPIDS PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order on June 8, 2015 at 8:06 p.m. in the Public Works Conference Room.

Members Present: Chair Tim Arntson, Commissioners Mike Jacobson, Neal Livermore, Ryan McAlpine, and Gen Sand

Members Absent: Commissioner Valerie Weaver

Also Present: Gregg Engle, Parks Supervisor
Ryan Gunderson, Recreation Coordinator

ROLL CALL

Parks Supervisor Gregg Engle acknowledged the roll call.

1. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 8, 2015 AGENDA

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MCALPINE, SECONDED COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, TO APPROVE THE JUNE 8, 2015 AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. COMMISSION CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Prior to the beginning of the regular Park and Recreation Commission Meeting, interviews were held with the candidates for the Commission opening.

3. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER JACOBSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCALPINE, TO APPROVE THE APRIL 13, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED.

4. OLD BUSINESS

None

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Pickle ball Facility Discussion

Recreation Coordinator Gunderson stated Council has received a number of calls and emails concerning the removal of the tennis/pickle ball courts from the Sand Creek

project. This was due to budget constraints. Engineering has reviewed the planned area that was removed from the project and estimates it would cost \$170,000 to do the courts, parking and trails needed for the facility. Council and staff seek input from the Commission on potential future pickle ball court locations. The updated drawing of Sand Creek Park design was distributed for Commission review.

Currently there are three pickle ball courts at Moore Park. It is organized by Bruce Sanders. They play indoors in the winter in Andover and outdoors in the summer in Coon Rapids.

Commissioner Livermore stated the group is looking for more than 3 courts in one location. Commissioner Livermore asked about the courts on University Avenue. Mr. Gunderson stated they are used by the middle school and are not available to the City. If another location was selected, there would need to be two full courts with fencing. Commissioner Livermore asked how much that would cost elsewhere and Mr. Gunderson stated approximately \$60,000. Mr. Gunderson stated possibilities would be Riverwind, Hoover, Crooked Lake or Sand Creek at some point.

Commissioner Jacobson stated there is already a plan to construct courts at Hoover. Chair Arntson stated he was at a City last week where pickle ball was going on and there were 40 people playing/watching. Commissioner Jacobson stated pickle ball would draw from other Cities. 4-6 pickle ball courts could be constructed at Hoover. Mr. Gunderson stated Hoover Park is not very visible. He would suggest Crooked Lake or Riverwind. Al Flynn has two tennis courts also but there is no master plan for that park. Mr. Engle stated Riverwind would be a good location. It could be point in a location where if the building at Riverwind were to be removed it could remain.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MCALPINE, TO RECOMMEND PICKLE BALL COURTS BE INCLUDED IN THE MASTER PLAN FOR RIVERWIND PARK. MOTION PASSED.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Trail Project Updates

Park Supervisor Engle provided an update on trail projects as follows:

1. Wilderness trail – paved and nearly complete.
2. Coon Rapids Boulevard trail reclamation (City of Anoka to Hanson Blvd) – Staff are currently coordinating with Anoka County on requirements. Plan will be to reclaim the trail this year, replace the deteriorating retaining walls, and construct periodic ADA improvements.
3. 85th Avenue trail – Staff are working with private utility companies to coordinate relations, as well as Anoka County to resolve drainage design issues. In addition, staff are coordinating easement acquisitions with two

private property owners to locate portions of the trail outside the County right of way. Staff was successful in negotiating an easement with the River Village Estates townhomes located east of East River Road. This latter easement would locate the trail south of the County right of way from East River Road to the private entrance to the River Village Estates. Construction is now planned for spring of 2016.

4. Portions of trails within Parkside Park, Nelson Park, and Lions Coon Creek Park will be resurfaced this year.

b. Parks Updates

Parks Supervisor Engle reviewed an open house will be held on 6/22 (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.) for the package of four neighborhood parks (Mason, Woodcrest, Pheasant Ridge and Delta) in 2016 – postcards should be arriving in homes this week. Kimley Horn received the contract for the design on those 4 parks for next year and the process we intend to follow:

- Public open house 6/22, conducted by staff (Kimley Horn may attend, but that is outside their scope – City staff is the face of the referendum)
- Following the open house Kimley Horn will attend the next P&R meeting to discuss the open house comments and the desires of the Commission
- A new concept would be prepared based upon the previous feedback
- We would expect Commission comments prior to sending to Council for approval (any revisions from Council and/or Commission would be incorporated at this time)
- Once approved design would commence
- Completed design by end of year
- Bidding early 2016
- Construction spring 2016

Sand Creek needs some soil correction. Site furnishings are being researched. The first meeting was held with the contractor. Finish grading will be done next week. Utilities will be put in. Tree removal had a big impact. Mr. Engle stated every attempt was made to save as many trees as possible. Staff is looking at planting some trees in key areas. Little League cut down all their cottonwood trees in the area. 310 trees will be replanted into the park. Irrigation is total overkill. It will be re-designed with the contractor next week. This will not cause a delay and will most likely save some money. There are 99 zones currently planned. This should be reduced to 60 zones. Staff is working with the County to plan the new traffic light at the entrance. The reader board will be removed, stored and will be reused in the future. There will be no electronic reader board at Sand Creek. There is a community electronic reader board at Lions Park. Staff is looking at water and sanitary sewer for the storage building. John Hofco will be doing all the seeding at Sand Creek. The warning track was removed which will save the cost on agline

but increase amount of seeding. The color scheme will be blues and greens. Pictures of the skateboard equipment was distributed for Commission review.

Riverview Park – There are a couple of irrigation issues. There is a punch list that is being addressed. It should be wrapped up by the end of this week. There has been some interest in renting the shelter. Currently the restrooms cannot be open to the public during hours when Little League is not present. Budget does not allow for daily opening/closing and periodic checking of the bathrooms. There is no fee structure set for the building. Mr. Gunderson stated he had made a proposal to charge a per head fee for the associations to help maintain the buildings. Mr. Engle stated if the restrooms would be open to all they would need to be remodeled. If there are doors on the outside, this indicates they are open to the public.

Hoover Park – Staff met with the engineer today. The Eagle Scout was planning to put in a rain garden. The park will need to be redesigned in the fall of 2015.

Wintercrest – Scoreboard will be installed in the east field. There is an agreement between the City and the association.

Burl Oaks – The neighborhood wants improvements to the park.

Boy Scouts – Twenty bluebird houses will be put in City Parks.

Boulevard Park – The backside of the park is a mess. It's a high maintenance area. There is a goose issue.

4th of July Celebration – Details were published in the City Newsletter.

Sunrise Pond Park – Irrigation is in. Weeds have been knocked down. Grass will be seeded.

Disc Golf – Discussions have begun with the organization. The organization will supply the baskets and install them.

2016 budget – Trail construction at Peppermint Stick Park. Trail construction at Tower View. Software for scheduling, playground inspections, tablets. Parks & Rec Brochure. Parking lot maintenance. ICW crew to remove buckthorn. 5 year equipment replacement program. Bison, Wildwood, Wintercrest and Marshland trail reconstruction.

Commissioner Jacobson requested future park tours include some of the parks needing maintenance.

5. Recreation Updates

AK sports is starting summer day camp at the ice arena.

Farmers Market will start July 15 at the ice arena.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LIVERMORE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SAND, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. MOTION PASSED. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregg Engle
Parks Supervisor

Drafted by:
Debbie Wolfe
TimeSaver Secretarial